Jefferson County Clerk & Recorders Office Elections Division
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Frequently Asked Questions - 2014 Primary Election

Starting June 2nd, every eligible registered voter in Jefferson County is sent a mail ballot for the 2014 Primary Election. According to state law, major political parties must hold a primary election to determine which candidates for local, state and congressional seats will appear on the Nov. 4 General Election ballot. Jefferson County will send more than 215,000 ballots to voters registered with the Republican, Democrat and American Constitution Party.

Why didn't I receive a ballot?

- Ballots are sent to the address listed on your voter registration file.
  - Verify or change your address before June 16 in order to receive a mail ballot at GoVoteColorado.com.
  - **After June 16 you must appear in person at any Voter Service Center to update your address or to be issued a ballot.**
- Only voters affiliated with a participating political party can vote in the Primary Election.
  - If you are an unaffiliated voter, you can affiliate with a participating political party up to and including Primary Election Day, June 24, at any Voter Service Center.
  - **After June 16 you must appear in person at any Voter Service Center to vote – ballots cannot be mailed.**

What is a Primary Election?

- Colorado holds Primary Elections in June and General Elections in November of even-numbered years.
- In the Primary Election, voters affiliated with political parties cast a ballot for their party's candidate for each office. The winning candidate from each party is placed on the November General Election ballot and is considered that party's nominee.

Does the winning candidate in the Primary Election hold office?

- No. The winning candidate in the Primary Election must face other candidates in the November General Election. Whoever wins in November holds office.

Do all Political Parties participate in the Primary Election?

- In 2014, the American Constitution, Democratic, and Republican parties must participate in the Primary Election. Minor political parties only participate if they have more than one candidate running for the same office.

Who can vote in a Primary Election?

- Eligible registered voters in Colorado that meet certain party affiliation requirements may vote in the Primary Election. To see if you are a registered voter or to review your party affiliation, visit GoVoteColorado.com.

Do I have to be affiliated with a political party to vote in the Primary Election?

- Yes. Only voters affiliated with a participating political party can vote in the Primary Election.

Can I vote in a different party's primary election?

- Affiliated voters must be affiliated or change to the party they plan to vote for by May 23, 2014. If you wish to "switch" parties, you must do so before that date.

Voting in Colorado in 3 Easy Steps

Confirm
Registration
Make sure you are registered and your address is current. Ballots are not forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service.

Check
Your Mailbox
During every election, your ballot will arrive in the mail. You have a choice of how to return the ballot after you vote.

Relax
Get Peace of Mind
Make sure we received your ballot – ballot status is available online by entering your registration info. at GoVoteColorado.com

2014 Voting Information

Registration

A citizen may register to vote up to and including Election Day by choosing any of the following methods:

- Online at GoVoteColorado.com, by mail, or at a registration agency before June 16 in order to receive a mail ballot. Registration agencies could include: JeffCo Elections Division, any driver's license office, or municipal clerk's office
- In person through close of polls on Election Day at any Voter Center

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Mail Ballot Delivery

All eligible voters will be mailed a ballot to the address on their voter registration starting June 2nd. Voters can return the ballot by choosing any of the following:

- By mail to the Elections Division by close of business on Election Day with adequate First Class postage (Post Marked ballots received after the close of polls will not be counted)
- Dropping it off at any ballot drop-off site
- Visit any Voter Center for more options

Voter Centers

Full voting services will be available at all Voter Center locations established the week before Election Day. Services include:

- Ballot drop-off
- New and replacement ballots
- Voter registration and changes
- Accessible voting equipment

Visit VoteJeffco.com for a list of ballot drop-off sites and Voter Center locations and hours.

Party Affiliation

To vote in a Primary Election, an unaffiliated voter must declare a political party affiliation. If you are an unaffiliated voter, you can affiliate with a participating political party up to Primary Election Day. Affiliated voters who wish change or withdraw their affiliation from one party to vote in another party's primary election must do so by May 23.

VoteJeffco.com